

# THE BELLOWS

29th GREAT YEAR

May 15, 2008

Puget Sound Photographic Collector's Society, Inc.

Vol XXIX No. 9

WHAT	NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF PSPCS
WHERE	DES MOINES MASONIC TEMPLE 2208 S. 223rd St. (Take Midway exit #149 west off I-5...go to first stop light west of Pacific Hwy. South...Turn right.)
WHEN	Thursday, May 15th 7:00 p.m. till 10:00 p.m. (doors open about 6:00 p.m.)
WHY	A short business meeting..Auction (one item lot per member please)..Door Prize..Show & Tell..Members' trade-sell tables (free to members, please ignore during business meeting.) <u>Program:</u> Please bring to show and share your favorite book on Photographica..either one on the collecting of photographic items or a book of stunning photographs you most enjoy.

## 2009 SHOW DATE IS SET:

For all of you who have been calling, e-mailing and button holing me to find out if, and when, our next P.S.P.C.S. Show will be...here is your answer: (small drum roll please:)

As part of our 2009 Show Experience Weekend our 29th Great Show will be held in the Pavilion on the grounds of the Western Washington Fair and Convention Center..in Puyallup, Washington..on Saturday April 5, 2009. We look forward to another successful Show Experience Weekend and invite one and all to take part.

This was the only open April date the Fair had. Our old last Saturday in April date was again taken by the model railroad folks..who rent the ENTIRE fair grounds for the weekend.

## CAMERA SHOWS DOING WELL IN "SIGGIE LAND":

Siggie from Canada e-mails to report that his last Show, in April, did very well. He reports a few less than 1,100 eager buyers..helped along, no doubt, by the Nikon Historical Society Convention going on in Vancouver. His early-in count of 140 was also impressive. He did not give a table count but I'm sure it was over 100. It is nice to hear that his Shows are doing so well. His attendance figures are about double what ours were for our April 4th Show. I guess those Canadians just love to stroke used photographica.

## AND SPEAKING OF CANADIAN SHOWS:

The 4th annual Victoria, B.C. Camera and Optical Instrument Flea Market will take place on Sunday, May 25th from 10 a.m. till 3 p.m. Admission is free but the Ferry ride does cost. The Flea Market will be held at Market Square..560 Johnson Street. Tables ..(total of 40)..are \$30.00 each..which will be a bit more US these days. For all the info. call (250) 382-6838. This could be a very good excuse to do a fun get-away to Victoria and see if your passport is still valid.

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## This Month's Mystery Question

Answers at end of Newsletter.

With thanks to the Western Photographic Historical Society

What 1979 camera used 110 film and came equipped with automatic TTL metering and a macro 25-67mm lense?

★ ★ ★ BACKSIDE INFORMATION ★ ★ ★

The April 17th meeting of the Puget Sound Photographic Collectors Society came to order at 7:01 p.m. There were 32 members and guests in attendance. Maxine Nagal ably took over as secretary for the meeting as Don Friend had an important out-of-state commitment and could not attend the meeting. The March minutes were not read. Treasurer, Shirley, reported that the Club was still solvent.

OLD BUSINESS & SHOW REPORT:

There was no old business. Bill Kimber began our Show report by announcing that the Fair has remitted \$277.25 to us. This was a pleasant surprise. Mike Immel reported that we had 71 early-ins and 406 regular admissions. Darrel reported we had had over 150 tables in use and that everything went very smoothly. He had heard only one complaint from a seller during the Show. He reported that we sent out 2030 post cards and only 232 came back from the Post Office. There was general agreement that hosting our Friday evening hospitality function in the Show hall cafe location had been a very good move and had also saved us some "dead presidents". Stan, Dave, Harold, Mike and Lorna did a great on site job. Overall the members felt our Show had gone well and been very good.

NEW BUSINESS:

The membership voted to have Bill Kimber contact the Puyallup Fair and Events Center and request an April Show Date for 2009. (see page one. Ed.)

A short discussion ensued regarding the cost of bringing in our Show Experience Weekend guest speaker. Bill Kimber promised that the 2009 Show Committee would take cost into account when selecting our 2009 Speaker.

Shirley Sparrow read an e-mail She had received from Jim McKeown concerning publishing another edition of his "Collecting Bible". The bottom line seemed to be that he would if he could make financially feasible the cost of publishing a new edition with a selling price collectors could afford to pay. This would not happen before 2010. We shall see.

SHOW & TELL AND PROGRAM:

The program was treasures from our recent Show. Ten members shared most interesting stories and photographica items. Thank you all!

AUCTION AND DOOR PRIZE:

Four items were up for auction. One received no opening bid. The other three found new owners for a total of \$34.00. The Door Prize was won by Dave Tanner who got his choice of one of the eight photographic posters Darrel had donated to the Club. The other seven were then auctioned off with a total of \$22.00 going to the Club. Again, Thank you all!

Meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m. for more selling, conversation and nummie munching.



THE BELLOWS Newsletter is published 10 times per year by Puget Sound Photographic Collector's Society, Inc. Information for The Bellows should be sent to Bill Kimber, 1413 Weathervane Drive, Tacoma, WA 98466-5712, (253) 564-4046, billkimber@webtv.net

The P.S.P.C.S. internet address is [www.pspcs.org](http://www.pspcs.org)

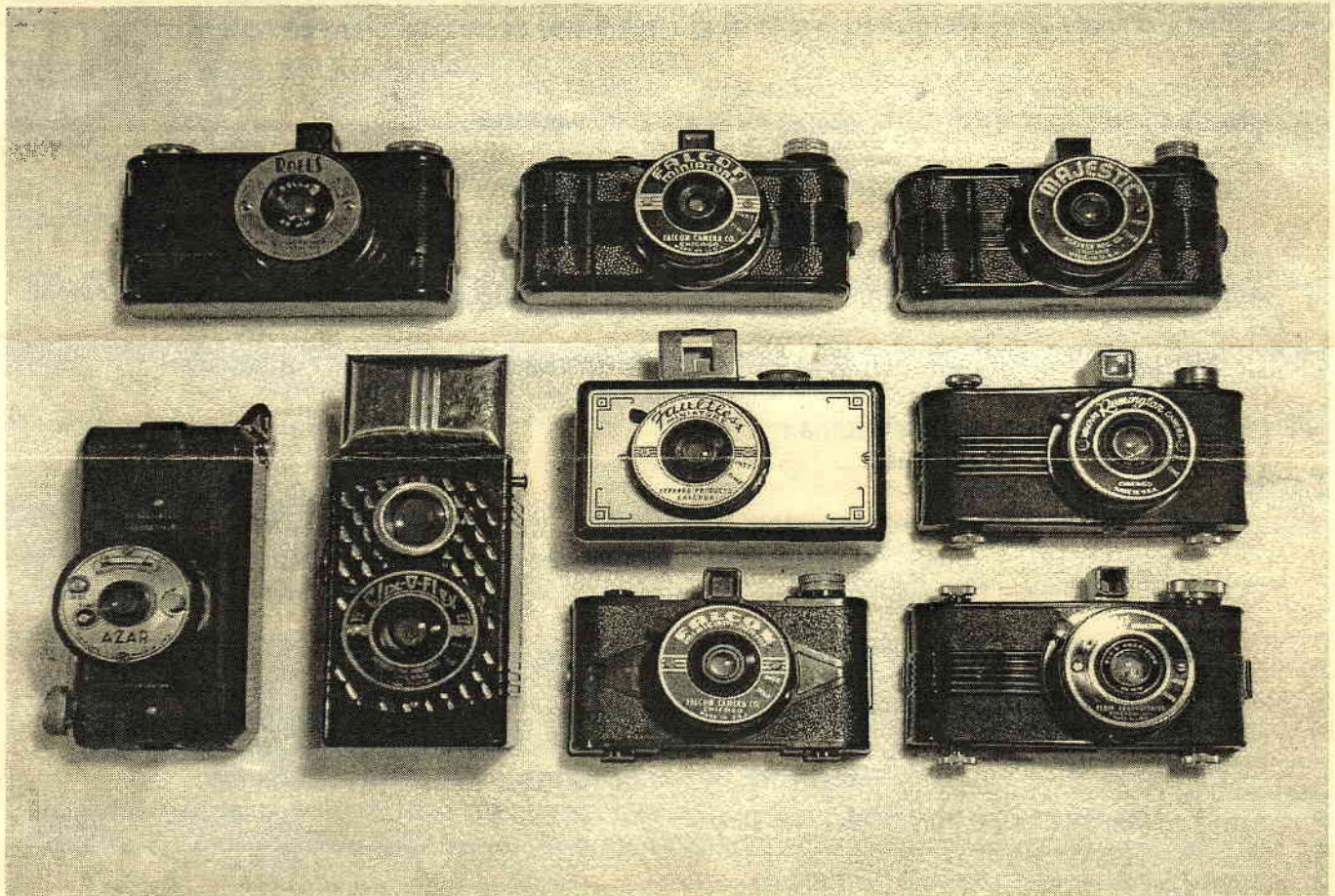
Dues are \$20.00 per year and should be sent to Secretary/Treasurer Shirley Sparrow, 300 Pease Road, Cle Elum, WA 98922, (509) 674-1916, sesparrow9@msn.com P.S.P.C.S. members receive first notification of our yearly April show.

PRESIDENT: DARREL WOMACK (206) 244-6831 [DARRELCAM@COMCAST.NET](mailto:DARRELCAM@COMCAST.NET)



The following is from the Western Canada Photographic Historical Association and is used with thanks. Ed.

## THE COLLECTOR *Minicams, Candids, and Chicagos*



Collecting cameras, or anything else for that matter, can get rather expensive if one hankers after the high- end items. An obsession with Leica, Nikon, Alpa, or pre 1900 wood and brass cameras can wreck a marriage, or make one dependent on Kraft Dinners.

There are some interesting collectible alternatives among cameras, and I present a few of them above, the world of inexpensive thermoplastic cameras. The earliest of these are of course the most expensive, the pioneers such as the Soho folders from the 30's the Pilot and Cadet at about \$30-45. The rare Minolta "Marble" tops all at about \$150 but just pretend you haven't heard of it and stick with the simple stuff. In North America the most underrated collectible cameras are what McKeown calls "minicams". In advertising and on their boxes they are described as 'candid' cameras, and I suppose one should not expect much subtlety for the \$3.98 average new selling price. Today you can find them for \$1-10 in garage sales and flea markets or about \$10-15 on auction sites. Most of them use 127 film, are single speed, fixed focus, meniscus lens, viewfinder cameras. The variations are in the faceplates, which offer names like 'Pickwick', 'Dick Tracy', 'Faultless' etc as you can see in the photo above. An interesting fact is that the majority of these cameras claim Chicago as their city of origin. Checking around I have found at least 55 different companies registered in Chicago as making cameras. The most famous is Argus Inc. (also of Ann Arbor Michigan)

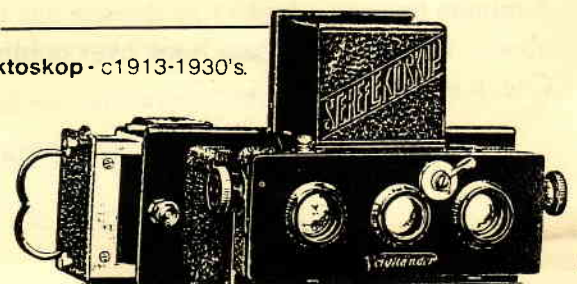
the most obscure may be the Five Star Camera Corporation. But they all claim Chicago as home town and most of them look alike, except for their shutter plates, and different body mouldings.

One is tempted to speculate whether all these companies were owned by several larger holding companies for tax reasons, or whether there were in fact small groups of fedora- hatted wiseguys toiling in underground camera factories and fighting for market share!

There are indeed a few minicams from New York (Utility Inc), and Detroit (Detrola Corp.) and some other cities in the U.S. and if one looks to Europe there are lots of plastic cameras in some very interesting shapes and most of the prices are modest for the collector. An excellent website to visit is <<http://candidcamera.free.fr>> that shows many French and German plastic cameras.

*Peter Knowlden*

Stereflektoskop - c1913-1930's.





## SHOW DISPLAY WINNERS ANNOUNCED:

Again this year committee members Harold Beyea and Don Friend did a superb job of organizing our eight display table entries. There were eight categories that could be entered but no entries were received in the following three Categories: Classic Cameras made between 1940 and 1985..Modern Cameras made since 1985 & Sub-Mini Cameras--smaller than 35mm. Hopefully, next year these interesting categories will attract enteries from some of you.

Thank you from your Show Committee to all who took part this year. We had space for 12 additional enteries and look forward to also filling those tables at our next Show on April 5th, 2009.

Here are this years winners in the categories in which they entered:

### **Category #1 – Early Cameras manufactured before 1940:**

- 1<sup>st</sup>. Place - Ralph and Bobbie London
- 2<sup>nd</sup>. Place - Eugene Raddatz

### **Category #5 -- Movie cameras, projectors, Cinema:**

- 1<sup>st</sup>. Place - Marvin Nauman
- 2<sup>nd</sup>. Place - Jim Passi

### **Category #6 – Photo accessories, flash, filters, camera supports, etc:**

- 1<sup>st</sup>. Place - Bob Kelly

### **Category #7 -- Non-Cameras, Novelty items, toys, figurines:**

- 1<sup>st</sup>. Place - Stuart Curry

### **Category #8 – Images, Literature or Other Photographic related items:**

- 1<sup>st</sup>. Place - Marcy Merrill
- 2<sup>nd</sup>. Place - Darrel Womack

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## **Photo Books**

Are you one of those people who are always on the lookout for new, different, and exciting reading material, but could care less about the latest New York Times best seller? I'm talking about photo books, photo books of every type imaginable. Repair manuals, price guides, reference books, used and rare books on photography and cameras. Look no further than Petra Kellers Photo/Camera Books. <<http://camerabooks.com/>> From a quick 5-minute browse it looks like the site has just about every photo/camera book ever published. Check it out.

## **Answer:**

Minolta  
110 Zoom  
SLR Mark  
II which is  
the re-  
styled  
version of  
the flat  
model that  
appeared  
in 1976.  
The Mark  
II is more  
compact  
and looks  
like a small 35mm SLR.

